

## Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 OES-03

SAJ-01 SAM-01 OIC-02 /117 W  
----- 002180

R 240346Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4672

INFO USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESCAP:OCON

SUBJECT: ESCAP:ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES,  
14TH SESSION, 21 NOVEMBER 1975, BANGKOK

1. SUMMARY: ACPR INAUGURATED NEW CONFERENCE ROOM WITH LONG CRITICAL HALF-DAY DEBATE ABOUT ACPR'S WORTH AND FUNCTION WHICH WAS TEMPERED SOMEWHAT BY AUSTRALIAN RECEPTION TOWARDS THE CLOSE. SOUTH ASIANS (INDIA, BANGLADESH AND SRI LANKA) CLEARLY WANT TO ELIMINATE ACPR PERHAPS BECAUSE IT STILL PROVIDES CRUTCH FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARAMIS. LATTER SUMMARIZED INDONESIAN LETTER OF EXPLANATION WHY JAKARTA CANNOT REPEAT CANNOT HOST THIRTY SECOND SESSION. INDONESIA BLAMED INSISTANCE OF NON-MEMBER COUNTRY, WITH WHICH INDONESIA LACKS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, ON ATTENDING JAKARTA PLENARY SESSION. BANGKOK APPARENTLY WILL BE VENUE NEXT PLENARY; JAPAN PREFERS 17 TO 26 MARCH PERIOD INSTEAD OF 24 MARCH TO 2 APRIL. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REQUESTS COUNTRY VIEWS BY NOVEMBER 28. END SUMMARY.

2. COMMITTEE APPROVED PROVISIONAL AGENDA OES/ACPR/65, 22 OCTOBER 1975 (TRANSMITTED STOKES, IO/CMD, OCTOBER 30) AND DEVOTED ALL BUT LAST 40 MINUTES TO DISCUSSION OF ITEM 1, PROVISIONAL AGENDA  
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AND TENTATIVE TIMETABLE FOR COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY SECOND

SESSION, 24 MARCH TO 2 APRIL 1976.

3. FIRST, HOWEVER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARAMIS ANNOUNCED INDONESIA HAD DECIDED WITHDRAW ITS OFFER TO HOST NEXT COMMISSION SESSION, BECAUSE A "NON-MEMBER COUNTRY INSISTED ON ITS ATTENDANCE DESPITE FACT IT HAS NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA. ITS PRESENCE MIGHT GIVE RISE TO SERIOUS PROBLEMS AND THESE MUST BE AVOIDED".

MARAMIS PROMISED CIRCULATE INDONESIAN LETTER TO PERMREPS. FYI MARAMIS HIMSELF HAD INDICATED TO US REP. PRIVATELY NOVEMBER 18 THAT WHEN INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK EARLIER THIS MONTH ATTEMPTED TO GET ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON IN NEW YORK TO AGREE NOT TO SEND DELEGATES TO JAKARTA, ALLON REPLIED THAT IF INVITATION WERE SENT HE PERSONALLY WOULD ATTEND. IN OTHER WORDS, NO DEAL. END FYI.

4. MARAMIS THEN PROPOSED HOLD PLENARY SESSION IN BANGKOK. HE EXPLAINED RTG WOULD NOT BE HOST (WHICH MEANS ESCAP MUST COVER COSTS OF DELEGATE CARS, SECURITY, ETC.) JAPAN SUGGESTED ADVANCING SESSION DATE TO 17 MARCH TO 26 MARCH INSTEAD OF 24 MARCH TO 2 APRIL. INDIA SUPPORTED BY UK INSISTED ITS MINISTERS HAD TO KNOW EXACT DATE RIGHT AWAY WHILE PHILIPPINES EXPRESSED COMPLETE INDIFFERENCE AS TO TIME. QUESTION WAS LEFT TO THOSE DELEGATES HAVING STRONG VIEWS ON DATES TO INFORM MARAMIS BY NOVEMBER 28.

5. WHEN USDEL ASKED WHETHER MARAMIS HAD CONSIDERED CANCELLING PLENARY SESSION THIS YEAR IN INTEREST OF ECONOMY AND AVOIDANCE OF SCHEDULE COMPLICATIONS, MARAMIS SAID HE HAD NOT. HE THINKS ESCAP PLENARY IS IMPORTANT MEETING AND SHOULD TAKE PLACE.

6. DURING DISCUSSION OF PLENARY SESSION, PROVISIONAL AGENDA, NEW ZEALAND FIRST PROPOSED ACPR ISSUE SEPARATE REPORT ON WORK PROGRAM. INDIA SAID THIS WOULD BE CONFUSING, BUT NEW ZEALAND INSISTED ACPR SHOULD TRY TO MAKE CONFUSING WORK PROGRAM EASIER FOR COMMISSION TO STUDY. SECRETARIAT (MANI, AND INDIAN) TRIED TO ARGUE AGAINST A SEPARATE ACPR REPORT ON WORK PROGRAM. THIS LEAD TO NEW ZEALAND DEMANDING A SEPARATE ITEM ON AGENDA DEVOTED TO ACPR. PHILIPPINES AND NETHERLANDS SUPPORTED NEW ZEALAND. SO DID INDONESIA WHICH NOTED ACPR DISCUSSION ON ESTABLISHING SEPARATE SHIPPING COMMITTEE WAS STILL NECESSARY.

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7. WHEN CHAIRMAN ASKED WHETHER A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM ON ACPR WAS AGREED, INDIA, THEN BANGLADESH AND SRI LANKA IN STANDARD ORCHESTRATED PERFORMANCE CLAIMED ACPR WAS SEEKING GREATER STATUS THAN IT DESERVED. A SEPARATE ITEM ON ACPR IS UNWARRANTED. SRI LANKA CLAIMED 31ST SESSION GAVE ONLY LIMITED ASSIGNMENT TO ACPR TO REPORT TO NEXT SESSION. NETHERLANDS CLAIMED ACPR HAS IMPOR-

TANT ROLE TO PLAY AND SHOULD PLAY IT. HE ASKED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO COMMENT. AUSTRALIAN CHAIRMAN THEN ADJOURNED MEETING TO COOL TEMPERS WITH AUSTRALIAN CHAMPAGNE.

8. ON HIS RETURN, MARAMIS PROPOSED THERE BE AN ACPR REPORT PREPARED FOR THIRTY SECOND SESSION BUT NO SEPARATE ITEM ON AGENDA. USSR SUPPORTED HIM. BANGLADESH STILL OBJECTED TO AN ACPR REPORT AND WONDERED WHO WOULD PREPARE IT IN LIGHT OF SECRETARIAT'S CLEAR DISINTEREST. ARGUMENT BETWEEN NETHERLANDS AND SECRETARIAT RESULTED FINALLY IN AGREEMENT THAT ACPR ITSELF WILL PREPARE REPORT WITH SECRETARIAT ADVICE. TEMPERS HAD RISEN AGAIN BY THIS TIME.

9. CHAIRMAN THEN STEERED COMMITTEE QUICKLY THROUGH ITEMS 2 AND 3 WHICH WILL REQUIRE FURTHER MEETING OF SUB-COMMITTEES ON CONTINUING PUBLICATIONS AND GUIDELINES.

10. AGENDA ITEM 4 ON PROGRESS REPORTS OF PRIORITY PROJECTS BROUGHT OUT THAT US\$10,000 INDIA HAD DONATED FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY ON ESTABLISHING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER IN INDIA HAD BEEN USED UP AND AN EXPERT GROUP HAS DELAYED MEETING PENDING RECEIPT OF MONEY. INDIA WAS PROVOKED AT THIS NEWS AND OBTAINED MARAMIS' PROMISE TO GET PROJECT UNDERWAY SOON.

11. COMMENT: SESSION CLEARLY ISSUSTRATED SOUTH ASIANS FEEL THEY HAVE MARAHIS ON THE RUN; THEY TALKED BACK TO HIM WITH IMPUNITY. THEIR ATTACK ON ACPR WAS REALLY ATTACK ON HIM. MARAMIS LATER CONFIRMED THIS ANALYSIS AND INDICATED HE NOW NEEDED ACPR SUPPORT MORE THAN EVER. THE IRONY IS THAT ACPR IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS REGIONAL MEMBERS, AND SINCE THEY USUALLY SIT ON THEIR HANDS AND REMAIN MUTE WHILE WHITE EUROPEANS DEBATE ITS IMPORTANCE WITH SOUTH ASIANS, THE GROUP BECOMES POLARIZED AND NOTHING REALLY HAPPENS. SURPRISINGLY ENOUGH NEW ZEALAND WAS UNAWARE OF SOUTH ASIAN RENEWED OFFENSIVE AGAINST MARAMIS, THE RATIONALIZATION PROGRAM HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTING WITH MUCH EFFORT AND ACPR ITSELF. A CASE, PERHAPS, OF TOO MUCH TALKING AND NOT ENOUGH LISTENING.

12. ACTION REQUESTED: IF WASHINGTON HAS PREFERENCE ON DATES OF PLENARY, PLEASE ADVISE.  
WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ESCAP:ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES, 14TH SESSION, 21 NOVEMBER 1975, BANGKOK  
**TAGS:** OCON, TH, ESCAP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006